

PRESS RELEASE

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COLORADO ATTORNEY GENERAL ANNOUNCES SETTLEMENT WITH OPERATORS OF FULL SPIRIT MINISTRIES/OPEN DOOR MISSION

DENVER — The Consumer Protection Division of the <u>Colorado Attorney General's Office</u> today announced a consent decree was reached with Full Spirit Ministries/Open Door Mission, its founder, Reverend Richard Thebo, his son Darren, and two of its board members, Andrew and Patsy Kaminski. The settlement requires Full Spirit Ministries, which also does business as Open Door Mission, to gift all of its assets to the Denver Rescue Mission and for Reverend Thebo and his son to pay \$14,000 in restitution to the Denver Rescue Mission as Full Spirit Ministries' successor in interest.

"This settlement brings closure to a <u>lengthy investigation</u> and prioritizes the true victims in this case; the homeless community," said Suthers. "We have full faith in the Denver Rescue Mission's abilities to take over from here."

Under the terms of the settlement, Reverend Thebo and Darren Thebo are barred from operating, forming, founding or establishing any charity in Colorado. The two as well as Andrew and Patsy Kaminski are also barred from serving as director, officer or trustee of any charity or soliciting on behalf of any charity. The Kaminski's are allowed to continue running their prison ministry, the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship.

The settlement resolves a lawsuit brought by the Attorney General's Office alleging that the Thebos misued the charity's assets and made false statements while soliciting donations. Full Spirit Ministries was suspected of telling consumers their donations would help the homeless when they were actually being used to pay Reverend Thebo's personal expenses including improvements to his personal home. His son Darren allegedly used the donations to purchase tools for his business, Thebo Construction, LLC. Defendants Reverend and Darren Thebo are also required to pay \$12,000 in civil penalties should they violate the consent decree.

Consumers who believe they have been defrauded by a business or nonprofit may file a complaint with the Office of the Attorney General by visiting www.coloradoattorneygeneral.gov/complaint-or-by-calling-800-222-4444. Consumers also can learn more about charities by looking up their registration information at www.checkthecharity.com.